



DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE  
WASHINGTON DC



OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY

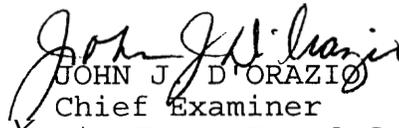
AFBCMR 94-02473

107.00  
MAR 08 1995

MEMORANDUM FOR THE CHIEF OF STAFF

Under the authority of Section 1552, Title 10, United States Code, Air Force Regulation 31-3, and having assured compliance with the provisions of the above regulation, the decision of the Air Force Board for Correction of Military Records is announced, and it is directed that:

The pertinent military records of the Department of the Air Force relating to [REDACTED], be corrected to show that on 1 October 1943, he was awarded the Purple Heart (posthumously) for injuries sustained while on a mission over hostile enemy territory in September 1943.

  
JOHN J. D'ORAZIO

Chief Examiner  
Air Force Board for Correction  
of Military Records



DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE  
WASHINGTON DC



OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY

MAR 08 1995

AFBCMR 94-02473

MEMORANDUM OF CONSIDERATION OF APPLICATION BEFORE THE AFBCMR

S. ECT: [REDACTED] CEASED, [REDACTED]

Having carefully reviewed this application, we agree with the recommendation of the Air Staff and adopt the decision as the basis for our decision. The applicant has been the victim of either an error or an omission. For the authority delegated in AFR 31-3, the applicant's error will be corrected as set forth in the accompanying letter for the Chief of Staff signed by the Executive Director of the Department or his designee.

*Oscar A. Saldorf*  
Panel Chairman

Attachment:  
Ltr, AFMPC/DPMASA, dtd 12 Feb 95

ADDENDUM TO  
RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

The following members of the Air Force Board for Correction of Military Records considered this case in Executive Session on 7 Mar 1995, in accordance with AFR 31-3 and 10 USC 1552.

Mr. Oscar A. Goldfarb, Panel Chairman

Mr. Richard A. Peterson, IV, Member

Mr. Vaughn E. Schlunz, Member

94-02473



DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE  
HEADQUARTERS AIR FORCE MILITARY PERSONNEL CENTER  
RANDOLPH AIR FORCE BASE TEXAS

12 FEB 1995

MEMORANDUM FOR AFBCMR

FROM: HQ AFMPC/DPMASA  
550 C Street West Suite 12  
Randolph AFB TX 78150-4710

SUB: Application for Correction of Military Records - [REDACTED]  
- ACTION MEMORANDUM

Reference: DD Form 149, 5 May 1984

**REQUESTED ACTION.** Applicant is requesting the posthumous award of the Purple Heart for injuries and subsequent death of his uncle. The deceased member served in World War 11.

**FACTS:**

a. The Purple Heart (PH) is awarded for wounds received as a direct result of enemy actions (i.e., gunshot or shrapnel wounds, hand-to-hand combat wounds, forced aircraft bail-out injuries, etc.) Indirect injuries do not meet the criteria for the award of the PH.

b. World War II veterans should provide documentation verifying the injuries received medical attention. The members current physician may provide documentation stating: the member may have sustained injuries that would have required medical attention had medical attention been available.

c. For the purposes of award, indirect results of enemy action are not a basis for award of the PH. Indirect results include, but are not restricted to:

(1) Disease (malnutrition, dysentery, pneumonia, etc.).

(2) Exposure (climatic conditions, including frostbite).

(3) Injury incurred as a secondary effect of enemy action, i.e., bailing out of a disabled aircraft, mid-air collision of allied aircraft over enemy territory, etc.

94 02473

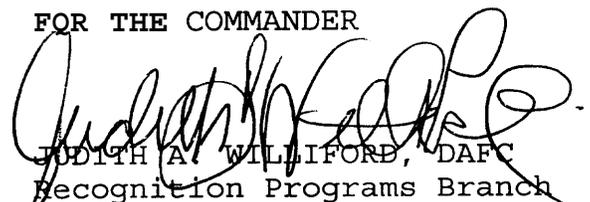
(4) Wounds, injuries, diseases or death incurred by, and/or resulting from brutalities, negligence or forced labor inflicted by the enemy while in POW status.

d. The statement in the letter provided by a member of the deceased members crew, indicates injuries to the crew may have been caused by enemy forces. Medical documentation was not provided, however under the circumstances, it would have been virtually impossible to obtain medical attention.

**DISCUSSION.** The criteria for award of the Purple Heart does not provide a clear determination for members, who may have died from sustained injuries. This is particularly troublesome for members serving during World War II. In this particular case, an eyewitness provided information, however limited, which strongly suggest, the member may have been injured by an attack from an enemy force.

**RECOMMENDATION.** Our recommendation **is** to award (posthumously) the Purple Heart to the family of the deceased member. The statement by the eyewitness and the strong possibility of incurred injuries prior to death, was a major factor in our decision for recommendation of the award. Should the board accept our recommendation this office will initiate and provide all award elements.

FOR THE COMMANDER

  
JUDITH A. WILLIFORD, DAFC  
Recognition Programs Branch  
Recog & Spec Prgms Div

Attachment:  
DD Form 149

cc:  
SAF-MIBR

94-02473